



News From

Maggie Brooks

Monroe County Executive

For Immediate Release

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BROOKS LAUNCHES NEW FOSTER PARENT RECRUITMENT INITIATIVE

Monroe County Executive **Maggie Brooks** today launched a new foster parent recruitment initiative for Monroe County. Brooks unveiled a new interactive kiosk that will be used as an information center for potential foster parents in our community. The kiosk will be located at various locations throughout the County this year. Currently, the kiosk is located in the atrium of the County Office Building. The new initiative also includes public information sessions to be held throughout the year for individuals interested in learning more about foster parenting.

*"The new kiosk will be a helpful tool in our continuing effort to recruit new foster parents in Monroe County," said **Brooks**. "The interactive kiosk, in combination with our community outreach, will provide helpful information to adults who may be considering foster parenting and want to learn more about how the process works."*

The kiosk provides interactive information, in a touch screen format, on what it's like to be a foster parent, the personal benefits and rewards, qualifications and requirements for raising foster children, and firsthand experiences from current foster parents.

In addition to the new kiosk, Monroe County is expanding its community outreach efforts and will be holding information sessions throughout the year for interested individuals.

The following sessions are from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

- **February 8, Pittsford:** Pittsford Community Center, 35 Lincoln Ave.
- **March 8, East Rochester:** East Rochester Library, 111 West Elm St.
- **March 15, Ogden:** Ogden Farmers Library, 269 Ogden Farmers Rd.
- **March 22, Brighton:** Brighton Memorial Library, 2300 Elmwood Ave.

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- **March 24, Penfield:** Penfield Community Center, 1985 Baird Rd.
- **March 29, Perinton:** Perinton Community Center, 1350 Turk Hill Rd.
- **April 5, Irondequoit:** Helen McGraw Library, 2180 East Ridge Rd.
- **April 7, Chili:** Chili Public Library, 3333 Chili Ave.
- **April 12, Webster:** Webster Public Library, 980 Ridge Rd.
- **April 26, Irondequoit:** Pauline Evans Library, 45 Cooper Rd.
- **April 27, Henrietta:** Henrietta Town Library, 455 Calkins Rd.
- **May 3, Brockport:** Seymour Public Library, 161 East Ave.
- **May 10, Gates:** Gates Public Library, 1605 Buffalo Rd.
- **June 7, Gates:** Gates Chili High School, 910 Wegman Rd.

Daytime Session From 10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

- **May 3, Mendon:** Mendon Public Library, 15 Monroe St.

Foster parents must be 21 years old and in good health, can be married or single, can rent or own a home, and most important, have the desire to make a positive impact in the life of a child.

*“Every child deserves the love and care of a parent,” said **Brooks**. “I encourage those interested in becoming a foster parent to contact us.”*

To reserve space at one of the public information sessions, or to schedule a session at a local company or organization, call the Department of Human services at 274-6522.

Monroe County has approximately 1,000 children in foster care from birth to 18 years old. Foster parents may have children in their care for days, months or an extended period of time. In some cases, foster parents eventually adopt their child.

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